again impressed upon the Orissa Maritime Academy to ensure the sponsorship of the candidates before they are selected for training. Besides, the Government of India has set up a Committee under Shri Praveen Singh, former Director General of Shipping, to examine, inter-alia, whether Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC) should be issued to all applicants desirable of becoming seamen, whether they are sponsored by the Shipping Companies or not. The Committee has since submitted its report, which is under examination in the Ministry.

Operations of foreign Trawlers

903. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received representations for a total ban on trawling by the foreign vessels; and

(b) if so, whether Government will cancel the licences issued to the foreign trawlers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted a Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P. Murari, former Secretary to the Government of India for a review of the Deep Sea Fishing Policy. Further action will be taken after the recommendations of the Committee are received.

New sorting arrangement of letters in Kerala

904. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sorting system has been rearranged and the number of sorting staff has been reduced in Kerala;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether these systems would make inordinate delay in delivery of letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sorting system are reviewed and rationalised from time to time to bring about efficiency. However, no basic change in sorting system has been carried out nor reduction in sorting staff has taken place in Kerala.

(b) and (c) In view of reply in (a) above, do nor arise.

Setting up of Monitoring station in A.P.

905. SHRI MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any monitoring station in Andhra Pradesh to examine the large number of road accidents in 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steep increase in road accidents occured in Andhra Pradesh on the National Highways in 1994-95 and in the first part of 1995-96; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The road accidents are normally recorded by the State Police Departments and then road accidents data is compiled on the basis of the information collected from States/U.Ts. on calender year basis by the Road Safety Cell of this Ministry, for the State as a whole. As per information available from Government of Andhra Pradesh, a total number of 6247 accidents occured on National Highways during 1994 in the State and during 1993 the number of accidents occured were 5533.